TRINITY HIGH SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

June 2024

A MESSAGE FROM THE HEAD TEACHER

The Summer Term at Trinity High School has been busy. Our Summer School Show "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat"" demonstrated the many talents of our young people with fantastic performances from our young actors and crew.

There have been many sporting highlights this term including our success in football, James O'Brien winning gold in the Scottish Disability Games Boccia Tournament, Abigail Crawford representing Scotland in the British Swimming Championships, Cael Sweeney playing his first professional Basketball Game for the Caledonian Gladiators.

A Health and Activities week saw all of our young people in S1 - 3 participate in a range of workshops culminating in another Trinity High School Sunny Sports Day which showcased our talented athletes…who also won a host of medals at the recent South Lanarkshire Secondary Schools Competition. We have thoroughly enjoyed a wide range of curricular and extra-curricular activities that makes our school so special.

Our young people have worked so hard, especially our senior students in preparation for their National Examinations and we anticipate a strong set of results that reflects all of their efforts.

Pupil leadership continues to flourish with very high numbers of students providing leadership and service by undertaking taking Caritas, Duke of Edinburgh, Sports Leadership and Dance Leadership Awards.

Our new timetable is up and running; it was fantastic to meet our new S1 and we look forward to welcoming them back in August.

Fr. Annis, Fr. Stephen and former Trinity High students, Fr. Chris Morris & Father Kevin O'Brien along with our associated priests kindly concelebrated our Patronal Feast Day mass. At the end of the service, our school's tradition of caring for others was recognised through our Lenten Appeal, which raised over £4000 for our chosen charities. In addition, our young people donated over 3000 items to our local Food Bank this year. All of this work truly demonstrates our pupils living out our school values of Faith, Hope and Charity.

As you will be aware I retire at the end of this term and I am delighted that Mrs Carol McArdle will take over the role of Head Teacher of Trinity High School. I would like to take this opportunity to wish her the very best in her new role.

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank you, our parents and guardians for your continued support over the past session, and for the many years I have spent at Trinity High School. The Parent Teaching Association and Parent Council have provided me with tremendous support and I wish to acknowledge the many ways that they continue to assist the school in its efforts to provide a wide range of opportunities for all our young people. None of what happens within Trinity High School is not possible without the hard work and dedication of our staff. I would like to thank them all and wish them a restful holiday.

It would be amiss not to thank our young people for being the most fantastic ambassadors of our school. We really are proud of you all.

Finally, our current session ends on Wednesday 26th June. We will close the term with mass led by Fr. Annis at the beginning of period 4. Mass will be followed by lunch and school will close at 1pm. Our young people will be welcomed back to school Wednesday 14th August 2024.

Stay safe and have a lovely holiday! Allison Craig, Head Teacher

A MESSAGE FROM OUR SCHOOL CHAPLAIN

What kind of food am I looking for? Where could I find it?

I hope 'home economics' furnished you with some clues. Personally, I have to keep away from MacDonalds – with all respect to the clan. At my age I have to be very careful on what I eat, otherwise the medical profession will get rich at my expense. School, Church, Family this triad will change for you as you conclude School and contribute to Family and Church.

When Jesus said to His followers **"I am the bread of life**" he was not talking about a temporary sustenance of the multiplication of the five barley loves and the two fish. It is much more than an isolated farewell last supper. Jesus was talking what kind of life He is offering and what will sustain such style of life. He illustrated his teaching by reflecting on nature, look at the birds of the air and the flowers of the field, how the creator looks after them better than kings and entrepreneurs. Trust my heavenly Father.

"Bread" You will meet hunger in its varied forms: the **hunger to be seen as you really are** and not how people decide to label you. The hunger **for** the real and authentic rather than the compromising 'politically correct'. The realities that you will be facing can be overwhelming and often frightening, but when this happens don't listen to the pessimists nor be glad of the optimist, because both are just opinions, but rather **listen to voice of the Lord deep within you**. Grow to **trust** God and your own conscience and discern well your judgements according to the one who tells you "I am the bread of life".

You heard that you become what you eat, and please don't look at my size, but I am sure you are aware of tasty, enticing food that can harm your body. As well as other consumptions that will affect your mind and soul. I met two types of hunger: There is the "**willed"** hunger of your **expectations** and **deepest desires** of your **dreams**. Follow your passions for the greater good and common benefit, this will make you feel alive. The second type of hunger is "**forced"** hunger. Do not despise or forget the forced hunger in the world that stripes people from their human dignity. **Make common cause** with them and that will change the world. Let the hunger for justice lead you, let the strive for peace unit you and may your creativity forge a life lived in harmony with nature, stimulating your, talents, giftedness, and stewardship of all that God has created to eventually make a difference in our 'common home'.

Those who followed Jesus **offered life** to others up to shedding their own existence out of love. Include loving your enemies, the price of love that can heal and reconcile. That unconditional love that we all hunger for, whether hear in Scotland or in Gaza, or in Ukraine… today as you conclude this phase of your life how would you understand the words of Jesus today; "I am the bread of life"? **Become what you receive**. The Body of Christ in the world.

By Fr. Paul Annis MCCJ

HEALTH DAYS

Trinity hosted its annual Heath days for all year groups. Our young people had a day off timetable to participate in a variety of mental health and physical workshops.

Our wonderful staff designed workshops which provided pupils with opportunities to develop their teamwork and communication skills.

For example; Camp America, P.E. Bootcamp, Performing Arts, our Trinity Talks podcast, Yoga, Orienteering, our Silent Disco and Wellbeing Journaling. Multiple external agencies shared their expertise with our young people; Kooth Mental Health, SAMH (5 Ways to Wellbeing), Pure Gym Bootcamp, UTURN (alcohol and drug awareness), Bloom Mental Health, Refuweegee and Stigma Free.

Our pupils learned key strategies to support their wellbeing. It's fair to say, a great day was had by all.

IMPORTANT DATES

Monday 12th August—Inservice 1

Tuesday 13th August—Inservice 2

Wednesday 14th August—Pupils return to school

Tuesday 17th September—Senior School Awards

Friday 27th September—Holiday

Monday 30th September—Holiday

Tuesday 8th October—P7 Transition Evening

Friday 11th October—School closes for October break

JOSEPH AND THE AMAZING TECHNICOLOUR DREAMCOAT

Over 50 pupils took part in this years show both onstage and off. Pupils worked tirelessly for months bringing the show alive with fantastic choreography, staging and singing. The pupils were supported each night with friends and family cheering them on with the joy on everyone's faces at the end clear for all to see – the show had something for everyone and the standing ovations made everyone so proud of how much we had achieved as a team! It was a fantastic opportunity for pupils to make new friends and memories and all we can say is….roll on next year!

INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC SEVICE ANNUAL SHOWCASE

Elishama Adebo (new S6) represented Trinity as he performed a drum solo as part of the Instrumental Music Service annual showcase. Elishama played it down but it was a MASSIVE deal as he was playing solo on a huge stage in front of around 700 audience members!

SCHOOL GOLF CLUB

Pupils are invited to join the Trinity Golf Club, whether you are a scratch golfer or have never played and are interested in finding out more about the game. For 2024-25 the meetings will now take place on a Tuesday at 1:30pm. Pupils who are interested can speak to Mr O'Neill - RE Department.

COST OF THE SCHOOL DAY

At Trinity, we believe that every child has the right to a quality education. Everyone is committed to reducing the Cost of the School Day (COSD).

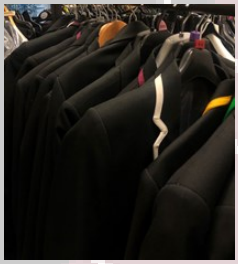
Check out our COSD section on the school website and handbook with hyperlinks to all the support on offer. Trinity High School - Cost of the School Day

Our Survey Says...

Huge thank you to the 406 pupils, 68 parents and 62 staff who responded to our COSD survey: we need your views to help us! Uniform, food and trips remain the biggest costs of the school day.

Uniform

We have a uniform cupboard with freshly laundered, nearly new clothes that we encourage all our families to use to help us create a more sustainable and fairer school. You can find the uniform racks out at Parents' Evenings and School Events or ask Mrs Simpson: gw08simpsonadele@glow.sch.uk Donations, particularly blazers, are most welcome!



School Trips

This year, our Trinity young people, staff, parents and guardians voted for school trips in the Participatory Budget. Staff across the school worked hard to organise trips, and volunteer, to ensure our young people had the best experience.

S1 loved their trip to the Science Centre. Pupils participated in educational activities like the spectacular science shows, the planetarium and practical workshops.

S2 visited the Time Capsule. A fun day was had by all in the swimming pool and ice rink.

S3 Showcase & Hollywood Bowl

S3 enjoyed a day at the Showcase cinema, seeing Kong V Godzilla, and competing against one another at bowling.

Our Senior were in full swing at Topgolf. Our new S6 went as part of their induction to their final year at Trinity.

S6 Top Golf Trip

Our young people commented on enjoying time with their peers out with school, and commented that they felt more confident and successful as a result.

Eating at School

In our survey, you said the lunch prices were too high. We are taking *your views* to the top.

Trinity pupil's views on cost of food at school were shared with Jenny Gilruth, the Cabinet Secretary for Education and Skills.

Your voice matters at Trinity!

We were invited to Let's Talk: Aberlour's Young People's General Election Event where one of our pupils, Liam McDevitt, directly challenged politicians from the six main political parties on the Cost of the School Day and providing Free School Meals for all young people. Well done, Liam!

We have a Grab and Go table in the foyer with cereal bars available every morning: please help yourself. Next term, we are hoping to launch a Breakfast Bar to offer a wider variety of food in the mornings. We need volunteers to help: please contact gw08simpsonadele@glow.sch.uk if you want to be involved.

If you think you may be eligible for Free School Meals, you can apply here: Free school meals - South Lanarkshire Council

Please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school about any aspects of Cost of the School Day. Thank you to everyone involved in all the hard work above!

BGE LITERACY & NUMERACY PROGRAME

At the beginning of the school year, we were delighted to receive a Gold Reading Schools Award as result of our hard work in delivering a range of initiatives which build a culture of reading within our school community.

We built on this success by packing the 2023-24 session full of literacy and numeracy-focused programmes and events for our BGE pupils, such as:

- Therapets Reading Sessions/S6 Reading Rounds
- S6 Number Games Sessions
- Catch Up Literacy/Catch Up Numeracy/Fresh Start Phonics
- Inter-School Writing Competition
- Whole-School Novel (including events such as the S1 Activity Day and the Author Visit from Alastair Chisholm)
- Trip to Rutherglen Library
- World Book Day Celebrations
- Family Learning Sessions
- Enterprising Maths Day
- S3 Supported Study

A huge well done goes to all of our competition winners and the pupils who have participated in our Literacy and Numeracy programme – we are very proud of your success and can't wait to see what you achieve next year!